



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

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Train to Fight — Train to Win

INSIDE

COMMENTARY

Mentor's influence, **2**

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Top trainers, **4**

'Ground rat' farewell, **6**

NEWS AND FEATURES

Wing annual awards
banquet is Feb. 18, **8**

Medical awards, **8**

Officers promoted, **11**

Medics in Haiti, **16, 18**

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Basketball championship
game tonight, **23**

SECTIONS

Commentary.....**2-3**

Training, education.....**4-7**

News, features.....**8-22**

Sports, recreation.....**23-25**

Digest.....**26-28**

Classifieds.....**29**

Keesler on the Web
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>

Dragons deployed — 231



**36 weeks until
Unit Compliance
Inspection**



Festive dining

Mardi Gras trees decorated in seasonal green, gold and purple provide the background as students from the force support officers course in the 335th Training Squadron eat lunch Feb. 4 at the Live Oak Dining Facility. An evaluation team representing the Air Force Services Agency and the food industry is judging Keesler's food service program today and Friday as part of the Air Force's John L. Hennessy Award competition. Keesler is Air Education and Training Command's nominee in the multiple facility category.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

Budget balances today's fight, future challenges

By Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials here reinforced their commitment to fund and support today's operations while posturing for future challenges through the service's portion of the president's fiscal year 2011 budget announced Feb. 1.

The \$119.6 billion budget proposal supports the Air Force's unique capabilities and core functions and how the service supports its people at home and abroad as it continues to rebalance the force, senior leaders said.

The FY11 budget request supports a balanced approach to prevail in today's operations while ensuring new capabilities, force structure, skills and technologies to meet tomorrow's challenges.

"The operation and maintenance budget is focused on new and emerging requirements as well as on-going opera-

tions," said Maj. Gen. Al Flowers, Air Force budget director. "We have balanced resources across the full spectrum of operations to meet the increasing demands of today's fight."

In FY11, the Air Force's baseline budget totals \$119.6 billion which provides resources across several appropriations that provide pay and allowances for people, readiness and infrastructure and modernization. An additional \$20.8 billion was requested to support overseas contingency operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In keeping with the Air Force's tradition of taking care of its Airmen and their families, General Flowers explained that Air Force officials will invest about \$1 billion for quality of life programs such as child development centers, spouse counseling and employment programs, school liaison officers and child care programs.

The general also said the submission

will support a basic pay increase of 1.4 percent for both Airmen and civilians. In addition, Airmen can receive increases of up to 4.2 percent for basic allowance for housing and 3.4 percent for rations.

Personnel funding continues to be a priority for the service, with \$29.3 billion devoted to active duty, Guard, and Reserve end-strength preservation. The budget also provides for increases in critical-skills recruiting and retention bonuses, and personnel plus-ups in stressed career fields.

"Airmen can expect to see increased emphasis on bonuses — about \$645 million — for areas such as combat controllers; intelligence; pararescue; explosive ordnance disposal; tactical air control party; contracting; and survival, evasion, escape and resistance," General Flowers said.

Please see **Budget**, Page 9

Lorenz on Leadership

A mentor's influence continues for a lifetime

By Gen. Stephen Lorenz

Air Education and Training
Command commander

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Mentors touch our lives and help shape us into the people that we are today. We value mentorship in the Air Force and both develop it in our subordinates while seeking it from our supervisors.

I like to think that one cannot have enough mentors, nor can one mentor enough. I've had many through the years, but one sticks out above the rest. This particular mentor touched my life in two important ways — separated by nearly 40 years.

While a cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy, I struggled to keep my grades up. I was on the dean's "other list" six of eight semesters. Now, in the end, I managed to defeat my academic demons and graduate with a commission in 1973, but I certainly didn't do it alone. I owe my success in large part to my academic adviser and mentor, Col. Joe Henjum.

Now, Colonel Henjum wasn't what I expected when I met him for the first time in 1971. To be honest, I don't think I knew what to expect. He had been awarded the Silver Star for heroism while flying helicopters in Vietnam.

I quickly learned that Colonel Henjum was the kind of person who was easy to look up to and even easier to follow. When he took me and my academic worries under his wing, I was proud to be there. I knew that his guidance, combined with persistence and determination on my part, would lead me through the challenge. In the end, it most certainly did.

When I walked across the stage with the rest of the Class of 1973, I strode with



During a Feb. 3 visit to Keesler in preparation for the AETC's Commander's Conference, General Lorenz, right center, greets four of 10 Airman he had just coined at Welch Auditorium. From left are Staff Sgt. Claudia Holcomb, 81st Dental Squadron; Senior Airman Promesha Sloan, 81st Medical Operations Squadron; Airman 1st Class Brett David, 81st Training Support Squadron; and Airman 1st Class Kelly Metcalf, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron. At right is Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson, 81st Training Wing commander. The coining recognizes outstanding performers.

the confidence that Colonel Henjum had helped build within me. He had been a crucial part of my academy experience and, in many ways, part of who I am today.

I kept in touch with Colonel Henjum over the years, often thanking him for making a difference in my life. I never imagined that his influence would impact me all over again, especially at this point in my career.

The second time Colonel Henjum touched my life began with tragic news. On Jan. 1 of this year, Colonel Henjum passed away after battling a long illness. His son, Mark, asked if I would speak at his father's memorial service. I

was touched by his request and spent hours trying to find the right words to convey how great a person had just left our earth. I wanted to make sure that everyone understood the lasting difference he made in the lives of others.

When it was my turn to speak, it came from my heart. I told the crowd about a man who dedicated his life to serving and helping others.

When I finished, his son rose to speak. While listening to Mark's story, I found Colonel Henjum leading me on another journey. I was touched and want to share the story with you.

A few months ago, Mark accompanied his father to the

hospital, and they both knew what was about to happen. The doctor was going to tell Colonel Henjum that he only had three months left to live. It was an appointment they were both dreading.

While riding up to the doctor's floor, Colonel Henjum greeted the building janitor who shared the elevator with them. Colonel Henjum complimented the janitor for keeping the building so clean.

The janitor was shocked — no one had ever thanked him before. Colonel Henjum noticed the building and took the time to notice the janitor.

Colonel Henjum's actions resonated with me. That janitor would never forget

Colonel Henjum.

When getting off the elevator, Colonel Henjum introduced Mark to the receptionist. He told Mark about the receptionist's son who was a Marine and currently flying combat missions in Afghanistan. He reassured the receptionist that her son would come home safely; Marines are excellent pilots.

Not only had Colonel Henjum met and talked with the receptionist before, but he remembered her and took precious time to introduce his son. He even thought to reassure her fears with a son deployed to combat operations.

Now, think about it. Colonel Henjum was riding the elevator to find out that he didn't have much time left. Instead of lamenting his fate, he was concerned about others. That day, he made a difference in their lives. Almost 37 years after graduating from the Air Force Academy, Colonel Henjum was once again making a difference in my life.

I always like to tell people that they should strive for two things in life: make a difference in people's lives and leave the campground better than you found it. Colonel Henjum certainly did that throughout his 75 years. He mentored me as a cadet at the Air Force Academy and once again just this last month. I couldn't ask for a better mentor and friend.

Go and thank those who have guided you through the years and take time to make a difference in the lives of those whom you mentor.

Our Air Force is only as good as those of us who serve. Let's all work hard to make each of us a little better each and every day — just as Colonel Henjum did for me and many others.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



DRAGON ON THE STREET

By Kemberly Groue

Keesler News photojournalist

What is one place you'd like to visit that you've never been before



"Greece."

Carmen Steed, 81st Force

Support Squadron



"Dubai."

Staff Sgt. Matthew Martin, 81st Operations

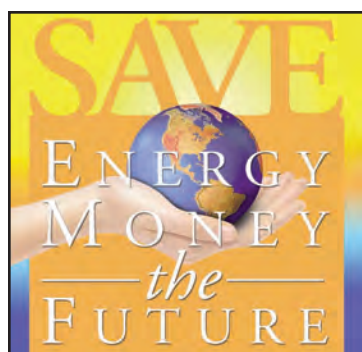
Support Flight



"I would like to see the world."

Miriah Brocker, Keesler

Federal Credit Union



More news, videos, information and photos

on the Web at

<http://www.keesler.af.mil>

KEESLER NEWS

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Keesler on the Web
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Trainers recognize top performers for 2009

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The 334th Training Squadron claimed seven of the 19 awards presented at the 81st Training Group's annual awards banquet Feb. 4.

One of the 334th TRS winners claimed two awards — Senior Airman Jeffrey Evatt was named airman of the year and airman instructor of the year.

Others who move on to 81st Training Wing competition are:

Noncommissioned officer — Tech. Sgt. Noah Vaughan, 335th TRS.

Senior NCO — Master Sgt. Kevin Brandon, 338th TRS.

Company grade officer — Capt. Bobby Roper, 338th TRS.

Civilian category I — Florence Clay, 334th TRS.

Civilian category II — Anthony Mitchell, 332nd TRS.

Civilian supervisor category II — James Smith, 334th TRS.

First sergeant — Master Sgt. Gordon Comerford, 338 TRS

Other technical award winners are:

NCO instructor — Tech. Sgt. Rafael Kaup, 335th TRS.

Senior NCO instructor — Master Sgt. Kevin Brandon, 338th TRS.

Officer instructor — Capt. Jason Matheny, 334th TRS.

Civilian instructor — Levi Brown Jr., 334th TRS.

Junior military training leader — Staff Sgt. Gregory Washington Jr., 81st Training Support Squadron.

Senior MTL — Master Sgt. Craig Pogue, 334th TRS.

Flight commander — Capt. Robert Curran, 333rd TRS.

Support NCO — Tech. Sgt. Manuel Matute, 333rd TRS.

Support civilian — Jonathan Lechner, 333rd TRS.

Keesler gears up for tech expo

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The Keesler Information Technology Expo takes place 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 23 at IP Casino Resort Ballrooms C and D.

The free event, sponsored by the 81st Training Support Squadron's training and technology flight in conjunction with the



Gulf Coast Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, is open to all Department of Defense, government and contractor personnel. Commanders are asked to allow personnel time to visit the expo. Refreshments are served.

The annual show "is the definitive, win-win scenario," according to Lawrence Monroe, technology analyst for the 81st TRSS.

"The expo brings representatives from the major informa-

tion and technology companies to our area to demonstrate their products and services," Mr. Monroe pointed out. "In addition to viewing the latest in training and information support technology, attendees will be able to dialog directly with industry representatives concerning how their products and services could benefit Keesler's mission."

Federal Direct Access Expositions is producing the annual expo for the 15th year with more than 40 vendors expected.

One special feature of this year's event is the demonstration of Keesler's MyBase prototype project which won Air Education and Training Command's Learning Innovation Award winner at last month's AETC symposium. MyBase, a cooperative venture by the 81st TRSS and 333rd and 338th Training Squadrons, migrates the traditional classroom setting into a virtual instructor lead training environment.

To preregister, log on to <http://fdaexpo.com/register.php?id=48>.

Ground radio course marks end of era

By Staff Sgt. Ashley Campbell

338th Training Squadron

Feb. 4, the 338th Training Squadron marked the end of an era with the final graduation of the ground radio communications apprentice maintenance course after 48 years.

A realigned course launched Jan. 5 combined ground radio with satellite/wideband/telemetry, visual imagery and intrusion detection, radio operators and network integration communications and information Air Force Specialty Codes.

Since the early 1900s, the ground radio career field has been a leader in the communications spectrum.

The first such long-haul radio communication was the Washington-Alaska military cable and telegraph system introducing the first wireless telegraph in the western hemisphere.

A major role in its construction was played by Signal Corps Capt. Billy Mitchell, who later achieved fame as an advocate of military aviation. Today, the communications community honors Gen. Billy Mitchell as the namesake of the Communications and Information Excellence Award.

During World War II, radio operators monitoring the bomb group's frequencies for changes to the flight plan enabled the pilot to broadcast to other planes in the formation. The radio operator also logged all radio events, noting which planes went down, when, where and the number of parachutes seen bailing from the plane.

The radio operator was also responsible for tending to the wounded crewmembers and signaling when there were wounded on board. The radio operator was also responsible for overall maintenance and repair of the radio systems upon return to the base.

Two ground radio personnel have earned the Medal of Honor. In 1943, Tech. Sgt. Forrest Vosler became the first Airman to receive the Medal of Honor. In 1945, Staff Sgt. Henry Irwin earned the Army Air Forces' final Medal of Honor.

In early 1949, the radio operations school moved to Keesler from Scott Air Force Base, Ill. As the Army Air Corps transitioned to the Army Air Force and later to the Air Force, the Department of Defense moved from World War II to Southeast Asia.

During the Vietnam Conflict, the ROMAD, or radio/operator/maintainer/driver was born. In the mid-1980s, the enlisted terminal attack controller took a more controlling and advanced aspect than the ROMADs, relieving this duty from the officer.

In 1962, ground radio maintainers were brought to Jones Hall, dividing the operation and maintenance into two separate Air Force specialties. Through nearly four decades, the field embraced all types of ground-to-air radio systems, from air traffic control to front-line tactical radios, including many joint-service radio systems.

In the early '60s, the course lasted nearly a year as Airmen learned how to maintain radios that literally had a door to access the interior parts. Over time, the course became shorter and the equipment much smaller and more mobile.

The end of the course also brings an end to the mascot of the career field. For decades, ground radio Airmen have prided themselves on being called "Ground Rats."

Where does the ground rat actually originate from? Some would say that because a rat gets into everything, it was a fitting mascot for the career field that worked on anything that plugged into a wall. However, RAT is actually an acronym that stands for receivers and transmitters.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
During the graduation of the final ground radio communications apprentice maintenance course at Jones Hall Feb. 4, Charles Maggard, a 338th TRS civilian and one of three individuals still working at Keesler who attended the ground radio course back in the 1960s, passes "the ground rat" mascot on to Airman Alexander Evans, the course's final graduate.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Drill downs, parades

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Feb. 19, April 16 and Oct. 15; 7 a.m. June 11 and Aug. 20.

Parades — 6 p.m. March 18, July 22 and Sept. 16.

For more information on drill downs, call Staff Sgt. Julie Hammond, 377-2737. For more information on parades, call Staff Sgt. Gregory Washington, 377-9527.

Coin contest

A contest to create a new 81st Training Wing challenge coin continues through Feb. 26.

The contest winner is recognized during the 81st TRG's formal dining out April 30.

The design contest is open to the Keesler community. Designs may be one or two sides with no limit on the number of submissions.

E-mail submissions to lakeitha.luster@us.af.mil as a PowerPoint slide.

For more information, e-mail or call Sergeant Luster, 377-0211.

UBU house party

A UBU house party for nonprior service students is 7 p.m. Feb. 26 in Vandenberg Community Center.

Students may pick up a free UBU card at the event or show their current card and become eligible for prizes and giveaways.

The party is sponsored by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Keesler Federal Credit Union.

CCAF deadline

Feb. 26 is the deadline to apply for the Community College of the Air Force spring graduating class.

By that date, all supporting

documentation must be on file with CCAF at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, Ala., including your nomination action request.

For more information, visit the education office, Room 376-8708 or 8710.

KSC scholarships

The Keesler Spouses Club scholarship competition is open to members of the Keesler family, including dependents and spouses of active duty, active Guard and/or Reserve, retired or deceased members and Department of Defense civilians.

Scholarships are awarded to eligible high school and home-schooled seniors who plan to enter a college, university or vocational school this fall. Spouses pursuing a degree or vocational studies are also eligible.

To request applications or more information, e-mail JLMPatricuin@aol.com; log on to www.keeslerspousesclub.org, or visit area school guidance counselors or the Keesler Thrift Shop.

Applications must be postmarked on or before April 1. Mail applications to JerriLynn Patriquin, KSC Scholarship Committee Chairman, P.O. Box 5218, Keesler AFB, MS 39534.

NECP deadlines

Nurse Enlisted Commissioning Program deadlines are Feb. 26, notification of intent to apply; March 26, academic evaluation; and April 23, applications due.

For more information, call the education office, 377-8708.

Education briefings

Post-9/11 GI Bill — Briefings are 1p.m. Wednesdays in the Sablich Center auditorium.

Officer Training School — 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Room 224, Sablich Center.

ROTC — bi-monthly at 10 a.m. Thursdays, Room 224, Sablich Center.

No briefings are held March 22-26.

For more information, call 376-8708 or 8710.

Hap Arnold grants

Applications are available online for the Air Force Aid Society's Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program at <http://www.afas.org/Education/ArnoldEdGrant.cfm>.

The \$2,000 grants are given for undergraduate studies to selected sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 Active Guard/Reserve, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired reserve and deceased Air Force members; spouses (stateside) of active duty members and Title 10 AGR/Reservists; and surviving spouses of deceased members.

The application deadline is March 12.

For more information, call 376-8517.

Swan 38 scholarship

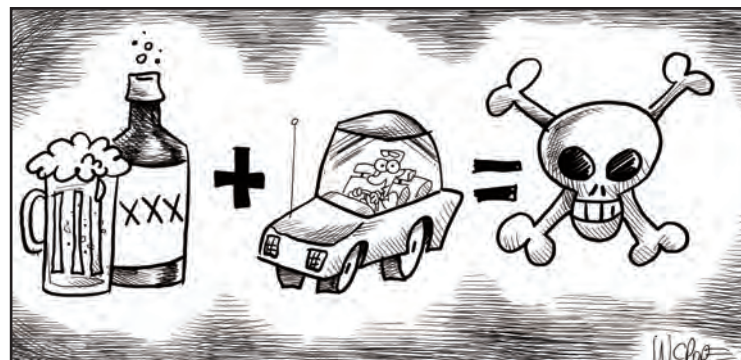
Deadline to apply for the Hurricane Hunters Swan 38 \$1,000 scholarship is May 31.

The competition is open to active-duty and retired 403rd Wing members and their dependents.

For applications, log on to www.hurricanehunters.com.

CCAF online

Visit the Air Force Virtual Education Center, <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>, to create MyAFVEC accounts to access online customer service tools.



Base shuttle schedules

are found at

<http://>

www.keesler.af.mil/

[library/factsheets/](http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/)

[factsheet.asp?](http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=15371)

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NEWS AND FEATURES



Sergeant Shand



Major Van Orden



Sergeant Colica

Air Force Medical Services honors 81st MDG members

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group has earned five Air Force Medical Services awards — four for individuals and one for a team.

Staff Sgt. Capri Shand won the Chief Master Sgt. Harvey A. Cain nutritional medicine award in the airman category and Maj. Stacey Van Orden earned the field grade dietitian

nutritional medicine award. Both are assigned to the 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron nutritional medicine flight.

Staff Sgt. Mathew Colica, 81st Medical Support Squadron logistics flight, was recognized with the biomedical equipment repair noncommissioned officer medical logistics award.

Senior Airman Ashli Maldo-

nado, 81st Medical Operations Squadron diagnostic imaging flight, received the Chief Master Sgt. Anton Zembrod diagnostic imaging technologist award.

Airman Maldonado was on temporary duty when the award was announced Feb. 1.

The 81st MDSS clinical research laboratory received the team Category III laboratory medicine award.

Dental implantology program approved

By Col. (Dr.) William Dunn

81st Dental Squadron

Keesler's graduate dental education program recently received approval to start a one-year advanced clinical practice program in dental implantology beginning in July 2010. This program will be the first of its kind in the Air Force.

The graduate fellow, to be selected in March, will receive training in all aspects of dental implantology to include selection, treatment planning and placement and restoration of dental implants in selected beneficiaries. The program's director will be Lt. Col. (Dr.) Andre Henriques, a board-certified prosthodontist and 81st Dental Squadron dental laboratory flight commander.

"Dental implants have become a mainstream treatment option for individuals with

missing single teeth," Colonel Henriques explained. "Dental implants can also be used to anchor a complete denture in selected individuals."

The Air Force Dental Service has other ACPs in oral surgery and prosthodontics, but the program in dental implantology is a novel program unique to Keesler. The first graduate of the program will be sent to a clinic without a prosthodontist, but whose patient population requires restoration of dental implants.

Keesler's dental education program is the second largest in the Air Force, with a total of 15 residents in four different specialty areas — a one-year advanced education in general dentistry program, a one-year general practice residency, a two-year endodontic residency and the new one-year advanced clinical practice program in dental implantology.

IN THE NEWS

Clinics close for warrior training

Keesler Medical Center clinics are closed for warrior training from noon-5 p.m. today.

Family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics and general surgery clinics each have one doctor available for urgent appointments. For urgent situations, call central appointments at 1-800-700-8603 or report to the emergency room.

Although pharmacy, radiology and laboratory services are open, they'll have reduced staffing, so patients are asked to delay visits during warrior training.

For emergency situations such as shortness of breath, chest or abdominal pain or bleeding with pregnancy, go to the nearest emergency room or call 911 for an ambulance.

Early deadline for Keesler News

The deadline for the Feb. 18 Keesler News is noon today due to Monday's Presidents Day federal holiday.

Larcher, Chappie James detour

Segments of Larcher Boulevard and Chappie James Boulevard near the new training aids facility are closed through Feb. 22 to complete sewer connections.

Southbound Larcher is closed from L Street north to the crossover at B Street. Traffic is detoured west at intersection of Tingle (C) Street to Third Street, then south on Third and X streets to L Street; then east on L Street back to Larcher. Chappie James is closed from Larcher to Larcher Chapel's east parking lot entrance, but the parking lot remains accessible during construction.

Pass Road Gate reopens Monday

The Pass Road Gate reopens at 6 a.m. Monday.

Until then, traffic entering the base at the Pass Road Gate is detoured north on Ploesti around Bay Breeze Golf Course.

Environmental restoration meeting

Keesler's environmental restoration technical review committee meets 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the West Biloxi Public Library, 2047 Pass Road.

The meeting is a forum for exchange of information and partnership among citizens, the installation, the Environmental Protection Agency and the state regarding environmental restoration activities on Defense Department installations.

Wing annual awards banquet

The 81st Training Wing's annual awards banquet is 6 p.m. Feb. 18 in the Roberts Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Facility.

Tickets are \$27 and are available from the following:
Wing staff agencies — Tech. Sgt. Lana Pray, 376-8232.

81st Training Group — Senior Master Sgt. Endsley, 377-0167; Master Sgt. Larry Bakel, 377-7642, and Tech. Sgt. Noah Vaughan, 377-0231.

81st Mission Support Group — Staff Sgt. Crystal Hollars, 377-9160; Senior Airman Ashley Leduc, 376-8181, and Senior Airman Ian Johnson, 376-8362.

81st Medical Group — 2nd Lt. Jason Garcia, 376-4421; Senior Master Sgt. Glenn Brass, 376-4303, or Master Sgt. Natascha Jones-Williams 376-3081.

Budget,

from Page 1

In addition to recruiting and retention, the general asserted that education will remain a priority in the FY11 request.

"Tuition assistance is a mainstay in each budget and we will continue to provide Airmen off-duty education," General Flowers said.

In addition to education, the Air Force's budget request maintains investments in the organization, training and equipping of Airmen supporting OCOs.

To increase flexibility and lethality that meets the needs of combatant commanders in the area of responsibility, Air Force officials will continue to support efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, the general said. The budget request includes a \$6.1 billion FY10 supplemental request in addition to the \$15.2 billion in OCO funding received in the FY10 appropriation.

As the strategy facilitates funding increases for contingency operations, Air Force officials will sustain the investment in new capabilities and a force structure to meet tomorrow's challenges.

"We are modernizing and recapitalizing within our means," Air Force Chief of Staff Norton Schwartz said. "In developing the budget request, we also carefully preserved our approach to taking care of Airmen and our Air Force families."

The Air Force's top priority continues the efforts to strengthen the nuclear enterprise with \$5.2 billion earmarked for ongoing support and maintenance of the service's nuclear forces.

"In addition to the establishment of Global Strike Command, the Air Force has developed a more rigorous inspection and positive inventory control process while taking steps to correct nuclear force development," General Flowers said.

As ground forces draw down in Iraq and sustain in Afghanistan, the Air Force will see intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and irregular warfare operations increase, the general said.

The new budget provides for 36 baseline and 12 OCO MQ-9 Reapers, four additional RQ-4 Global Hawks and 662 active duty personnel associated with the increased ISR missions.

General Flowers said service officials will also seek to develop a normalized training and basing posture for the MC-12 Project Liberty.

The budget proposal provides "enhancement to legacy fighters to ensure today's capability is compatible with future or fifth generation fighters as we develop and bed down the F-35," General Flowers said.

The enhancements include F-15 modernization and radar upgrades and EC-130H Compass Call modifications. Common configuration upgrades and software development for

the F-22 Raptor will ensure compatibility with new models coming off the line. In addition, the Air Force will continue modernizing the C-5 Galaxy, C-130 Hercules and C-17 Globemaster III fleet through programs such as avionics modernization; reliability, enhancement, and re-engineing; and large aircraft infrared countermeasures.

The service also will continue its efforts toward emerging missions, the general said.

"We're increasing our ISR combat air patrols to 50 by the end of FY11 and by the end of FY13 we'll be at 65," he said. "Each CAP will have a manpower tail attached and much of the end strength relates to increased demand of ISR support in the AOR."

"We're investing in maturing technologies as we work toward concept exploration for a long-range strike capability," General Flowers said of the \$200 million endeavor.

Air Force officials will continue building a robust space program while investing in both secure and non-secure satellite communications including a missile warning satellite.

Air Force officials said the FY11 budget helps the service achieve the right balance to meet today's commitments while posturing for future challenges, adding that there is now a blueprint to improve existing capabilities and pursue new technology while ensuring stewardship of national resources.

81st Medical Group honors outstanding members

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group announced its annual award winners for 2009 Jan. 20.

Winners who now compete at 81st Training Wing level are:

Airman — Senior Airman Brandon Ailes, 81st Medical Operations Squadron.

Noncommissioned officer — Tech. Sgt. Paul Barnett, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron.

Senior NCO — Master Sgt. Yvonne Shaw, 81st MDOS.

Company grade officer — Capt. Stephen Riggs, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron.

Field grade officer — Maj. Stacey Van Orden, 81st MDTs.

Civilian category I — Joann Griggs, 81st MDTs.

Civilian category II — Brandi Saucier, 81st MDTs.

First sergeant — Master Sgt. Joseph Wheeler, 81st IPTS.

Mission supporters salute 'best of the best' for 2009

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The 81st Mission Support Group has recognized its top performers for 2009.

Individuals who now represent the 81st MSG at the 81st Training Wing's 2009 awards banquet Feb. 18 are:

Airman — Senior Airman Alonda West, 81st MSG.

Noncommissioned officer — Tech. Sgt. Robert Rakes, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Senior NCO — Master Sgt. Patrick Key, 81st LRS.

Company grade officer — 2nd Lt. Laura Piranio, 81st LRS.

Civilian category I — Erica Fairley, 81st Contracting Squadron.

Civilian category II — Edythe Brewster, 81st Force Support Squadron.

Civilian supervisor category II — Bart Bosarge, 81st FSS.

First sergeant — Master Sgt. Kevin Scharwath, 81st LRS.

Wing staff agencies recognize 'jobs well done'

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Eight members of the 81st Training Wing staff agencies are competing for honors at the wing's annual awards banquet Feb. 18:

Airman — Staff Sgt. Matthew Martin, 81st Operations Support Flight.

Noncommissioned officer — Staff Sgt. Adrienne Russell-George, equal opportunity office.

Senior NCO — Master Sgt. Michael Rieger, equal opportunity office.

Company grade officer — Capt. Elizabeth Hernandez, legal office.

Civilian category I — Renee Collins, 81st OSF.

Civilian category II — Nadine Cagle, 81st Comptroller Squadron.

Civilian supervisor category I — Elizabeth Harper, 81st OSF.

Civilian supervisor category II — Richard Brock, legal office.



U.S. AIR FORCE
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PERSONNEL NOTES

Finance call center — 376-8225

81st Comptroller Squadron

Due to the high volume of calls and the use of personnel to assist walk-in customers, the financial services flight has established a call center, 376-8225, that's manned during regular customer services hours.

If the number is busy or the call is after hours, customers are asked to leave a message and the call will be returned within 24 hours.

W-2 forms now available

81st Comptroller Squadron

Other 2009 tax statements now available through myPay include retiree, annuitant and savings deposit program 1099 forms and active duty, reserve, civilian and student loan repayment program W-2 forms and travel and miscellaneous W-2 forms.

Finance updates

81st Comptroller Squadron

The annual military pay raise that went into effect Jan. 1 is 3.4 percent. To view the updated pay tables, log on to <http://www.dfas.mil/militarypay/militarypaytables.html>.

For updated basic allowance for housing rates, log on to <http://perdiem.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/bah.html>

Monthly basic allowance for subsistence rates remain the same for 2010 — \$223.04 for officers and \$323.87 for enlisted.

The Thrift Savings Plan contribution limit of \$16,500 remains in place for 2010. For questions about the TSP program, log on to <http://www.tsp.gov/curinfo/qsas-limits.html>.

W-2 forms are now available on the myPay Web site.

For more financial information, visit "Money-Finance Central" on the Air Force Portal.

Finance office hours

Finance customer service hours are:

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

8 a.m. to noon compressed work schedule Fridays.

8 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, cashier hours; closed CWS Fridays.

For more information, call 376-8225.

Military personnel contacts

Military personnel section phone numbers:

Customer support — 376-8738.

Career development — 376-8739.

Force management — 376-8740.

Student personnel center — 377-4111.

Testing — 376-4111.

Security changes for myPay

Changes to myPay security now require users to create a login identification and password for future access. Due to complications with this process, many members have been locked out of myPay.

Here's how to alleviate some of these problems:

The new instructions to change your login ID and PIN/password are found at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/StepByStep.pdf>

The frequently-asked questions tab of the myPay home page can also assist in changing the login ID and PIN/password. It's found at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/FAQ.htm>

If difficulties continue, members may call the centralized customer support unit toll free, 1-888-332-7411, and press 5 for myPay. Hours are 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST weekdays. Due to increased volume of calls, there may be a long wait before speaking with a customer service representative.

CSC conducts customer satisfaction survey

CSC is conducting an independent survey on customer satisfaction.

If you've used any of the base operating support services at Keesler, such as McBride Library, fitness centers, supply, civil engineering or weather since Feb. 1, 2009, CSC would like your feedback.

The survey is available online through Friday. The address is <http://shaarp.inquisiteasp.com/cgi-bin/qwebcorporate.dll?idx=ZFTDXH>.

Survey responses are confidential.

The survey is part of CSC's commitment to serving Keesler customers better.

For more information, call 377-5213.

Identity theft
is a
personal nightmare
and security risk.
Shred bills,
statements, letters,
old journals, records,
outdated
application forms
and any documents
that contain
your full name,
Social Security number,
duty title and
job information,
credit card,
bank account numbers
and names of
family members.
If you see documents
being removed from
trash cans, call the
81st Security Forces
Squadron
law enforcement desk,
377-3040.



**Don't drink
and drive.
Call
Airmen Against
Drunk Driving,
377-SAVE,
for a safe ride
home.**



The tax office is open
in Room 229, Sablich Center.
Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday
and 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. working Fridays.
For appointments and more information,
call 376-8144.

Keesler officers on promotion list

Air Force Personnel Center
and Keesler News staff

Eleven Keesler officers and one member on temporary duty here are among the 30 lieutenant colonels, 47 majors, and 3,087 captains selected for promotion during the 2009C chaplain, judge advocate and line of the Air Force central selection boards.

The boards considered 151 lieutenant colonels, 195 majors and 3,607 captains for promotion.

Those selected for promotion at Keesler are:

2nd Air Force — to colonel, Lt. Col. Brynn Morgan; to major, Capt. Hector Jimenez.

81st Training Support Squadron — to major, Capts. Darrell Apilado and Kelly Just.

333rd Training Squadron — to major, Capts. Robert Curran, Sean Evans, Mark Landez and Randall Noel.

334th TRS — to major, Capts. Mark Kraemer and Lee Sims, on temporary duty from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey.

335th TRS — to major, Capts. Timothy Fast and Scott Smith.

Captains Evans and Landez are currently attending Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School, Quantico, Va.

Captains Apilado (currently deployed), Curran and Noel were also selected to attend developmental education in residence.

Susan Griggs, Keesler News editor, contributed to this report.



Krewe of Medics make music



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Brig. Gen. Dan Wyman, left, 81st Medical Group commander, leads the applause for the royalty of the 22nd annual Krewe of Medics Mardi Gras ball Saturday — Queen Kay Hymel and King Walt Brehm. In keeping with this year's theme, "Music, Music, Music," General Wyman wore a blue leisure suit and platform shoes reminiscent of the 60's disco scene, Mrs. Hymel represented Barbra Streisand and Mr. Brehm represented Sir Paul McCartney. Mrs. Hymel is General Wyman's secretary, and Mr. Brehm is the statistician at the 81st Medical Support Squadron's clinical research laboratory.



Deployed Airman wins design contest

By Maj. Belinda Petersen

Air Force Services Agency Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force Services Agency officials announced the winner of the MyAirForceLife.com T-shirt contest recently here.

Staff Sgt. Nathan Cruz, a radio frequency transmission technician who is deployed from Robins Air Force Base, Ga., won the contest out of 174 submissions in the adult category. His design received 1,178 votes.

As the winner, Sergeant Cruz will receive a MacBook 2.26 GHz laptop with iWorks09 pre-installed, as well as the Adobe CS4 graphics premium software. His prizes are valued at \$2,000.

Also, Army and Air Force Exchange Service will produce his design and offer the T-shirts for sale.

The award was presented to Sergeant Cruz at his undisclosed deployed unit.

Last year, Air Force Services Agency officials launched MyAirForceLife.com, an interactive site to help Airmen stay connected, informed and engaged in programs as part of the Year of the Air Force Family.

“The theme of our campaign is ‘The Air Force is a great place to live, work and play,’” said Mike Bensen, deputy to the commander of Air Force Services Agency. “Our focus is to make it even better for our Air Force family. The Web site highlights the core ‘Year of the Air Force Family’ programs and activities.”

“The site features programs and competitions that will roll out through the year. We are focusing on the

‘play’ part of ‘The Air Force is a great place to live, work, and play’ campaign,” said Debbie Karnes, Air Force Services Agency spokeswoman. “There’s something for everyone: short story, video short, original song, and photography competition. The site also offers a place for visitors to provide quips and quotes on how the Air Force has enriched their lives in the ‘Roger That’ section. There’s even a new, fun InstaPoll to participate in.”

To find out more about the current short story competition and to enter, Airmen and eligible patrons of Air Force morale, welfare and recreation programs can log on to <http://www.myairforcelife.com>.

The Air Force’s official Year of the Air Force Family Web site is <http://www.af.mil/yoaff>.



Online library invaluable in civilian hiring process

By Daniel Elkins

Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs Office

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — An Air Force hiring surge in the coming year, combined with the termination of the National Security Personnel System, make it even more critical for supervisors to know where to go for guidance in the hiring process.

The Air Force Standard Core Personnel Document Library provides hiring managers standardized classification documents for NSPS, General Schedule and Wage Grade positions. Established in 1996, the number of published standardized core personnel documents located at the online library is 952, accounting for more than 43,000 positions, and are mandatory for Air Force-wide use.

“The library came into existence as a means to develop standardized documents to be used across the Air Force; our vision is to link civilian positions numbers on unit manning documents directly to the approved SCPD,” said Col. Brian Norman, the Air Force Manpower Agency commander. “This should reduce start time to fill

civilian positions in the future.”

Located here at the Air Force Manpower Agency, the office responsible for developing and managing the SCPD library is taking on a significant role in 2010. While it prepares for the service to add more than 9,000 jobs, the office must simultaneously tackle the daunting task of reclassifying more than 875 NSPS standard position descriptions, encompassing about 3,000 jobs, back to General Schedule.

The classification library can be found by typing in SCPD library into the search function on the Air Force Portal.

The Air Force previously issued guidance to accompany each new classification standard, created by the Office of Personnel Management, informing supervisors on how to apply the standard for the Air Force.

The SCPD library replaced the outdated classification guidance method while contributing significantly to the standardization of positions, said Christine Ayers, the SCPD library manager.

“The benefit of SCPDs is that they standardize classifi-

cation across the Air Force,” she said. “A valuable benefit of the library is that it helps eliminate any factors that aren’t associated to the true classification of a position and removes any inconsistencies.”

Ms. Ayers said the library is also beneficial in standardizing skills and recruitment criteria.

That recruitment criterion has been essential over the past several months as thousands of civil service jobs have been added to the service’s manpower books. They include civilian unit program coordinators, fitness assessment cell administrators and contractor-to-civilian conversions. The Air Force projects an even larger hiring surge in fiscal 2011 with an estimated 25,000 new positions by fiscal 2013.

In the process of coordinating NSPS conversions, special initiatives and new classification standards, the library staff relies heavily on its communication with career functional managers.

Whether initiated internally or developed based on management requests, SCPDs entail intensive research and analysis to ensure their accuracy, Ms. Ayers said. Should a

management request not require an SCPD, hiring managers should consult their career functional management team for assistance in creating their own core documents.

Of significant concern to many managers in this hiring process is the speed at which a new employee can be in place.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of the SCPD library is that it speeds the personnel processing time by allowing managers access to documents that have already been classified, Ms. Ayers said.

“When a request for personnel action goes to classification authority on a standardized personnel document, it’s going to move through much quicker,” Ms. Ayers said. “The classifier has to verify that the work is performed, but the SCPD is considered to be technically correct and properly classified.”

The number of classified documents in the SCPD library stands to grow considerably in the months ahead as a result of a provision in National Defense Authorization Act to repeal NSPS and transition employees to the General Schedule or a previous pay system by Jan. 1, 2012.

“It’s going to have a huge impact,” Ms. Ayers said.

The SCPD library staff had been developing standardized position descriptions, or SPDs, for NSPS on a phased-in approach since 2007. The SPDs were written prescriptively so that skills across a broader range of grades could be lumped into single pay bands. Approximately 875 SPDs will be written back to SCPDs.

The conversion for jobs that have legacy position descriptions, those existing under a previous pay system before conversion to NSPS, will transition more smoothly. The nearly 3,000 documents newly created under NSPS will require a more exhaustive assessment.

“When you have a pay band that covers GS-9 through GS-13 without a reach back GS position description, you can’t arbitrarily assign a GS position to it when converting back,” Ms. Ayers said. “Any SPD that someone has been placed on since the inception of NSPS will now have to be carefully reviewed to determine the GS classification when it reverts back.”

Keesler colonel serves as senior adviser to logistics management team in Iraq

Lt. Col. Steven Ramsay, deployed from the 81st Training Group at Keesler, explains the mission of the Logistics Military Advisory Team to Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley as they walk by a mine resistant ambush protected vehicle during Secretary Donley's visit to Ali Base, Iraq. Colonel Ramsay is LMAT's senior adviser, and its joint expeditionary tasking Airmen are assigned to the Army's 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. The LMAT mission is to advise, train and mentor Iraqi army location commands on long-term sustainment.

Photo by Senior Master Sgt.
Elizabeth Gilbert



Humana launches online community for military members and their families

Humana Military Healthcare Services

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Humana Military Healthcare Services announces the launch of TRIWORLD, a first-ever online virtual world designed exclusively for military families. TRIWORLD is for immediate use by Tricare beneficiaries — including active duty servicemen and women, retirees, and families — through the Humana Military Web site at www.humana-military.com.

In collaboration with Linden Lab's Second Life, a pioneer in the creation of online virtual communities — TRIWORLD offers military members and their loved ones a way to create and control lifelike "avatars" — online personalized characters — who can communicate and interact in lifelike virtual settings just as humans do in the real world. Through their avatars, military family members can do whatever they would do together in person: meet, greet, walk, talk, drive, dance — even learn about their Tricare benefits.

"Humana Military is excited to offer this dynamic platform free of charge to our military members and their families," said Dave Baker, president and CEO for Humana Military. "TRIWORLD enables us to provide enhanced guidance about TRICARE in a comfortable setting, without having to pick up a phone or travel to a Tricare Service Center. Family members experience real-time interaction, in a realistic setting, with real emotions, whether they're across town or across the world."

The TRIWORLD online community is a "closed world." Only authorized Humana Military beneficiaries and their families will be

granted access — at no charge — through a portal located on the Humana Military Web site. No commercialization is allowed. TRIWORLD is active 24/7 to accommodate all worldwide time zones and users can explore and interact in five different virtual settings:

A community welcome and orientation center where users can learn about their virtual world, and access information and updates about their health benefit.

A tropical island where users can enjoy water and beach activities (windsurfing, hand gliding, and jet skiing), strolls on the sandy beaches, picnics, and family fun.

A residential neighborhood complete with an interactive soccer field, fishing, miniature golf, a drive-in theatre, picnic grounds, clubhouse with games and individual homes where families can enjoy time together.

An overseas desert military base/battlefield replica that enables military members to show family members where and how they live and work when away from home.

A media and conference center with private meeting and press rooms, including an area to watch and listen to Tricare educational briefings, an amphitheatre for concerts and park-like settings.

To help member military families get the most from their virtual world experience, Humana Military will also provide authorized users free 24/7 online access to Avatar and Second Life consultants who can offer one-on-one support in creating and personalizing avatars and in using and navigating the virtual settings to locate their benefit information.

Military families now have free access to caregiver network

By Elaine Wilson

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Military families now have free access to an online network of caregivers who can assist with everything from babysitting to dog walking.

Sittercity is the nation's largest online source for local babysitters, nannies, elder care providers, dog walkers, housekeepers and tutors, and contains more than 1 million caregiver profiles, officials said.

Military members and their families can activate their membership by logging on to <http://www.sittercity.com/dod>.

The Sittercity Corporate Program, funded by the Defense Department, offers military families, including active-duty, Guard and Reserve members a paid membership to the site.

"We believe that access to Sittercity's nationwide network of quality care providers will be highly beneficial to our service members and their families," said Tommy Thomas, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

The paid membership enables military families entry to a custom-built Defense Department Web site portal where they can match up caregivers to their situation; gain instant access to caregiver profiles that include background checks, references and reviews; and find military-certified care providers as well as caregivers who are military-subsidized and authorized access to a military installation.

The site will help meet the unique needs of military families as they face deployments, long hours at work and assignments to remote locations, Mr. Thomas said.

"Because of the mobile nature of military life, trusted community resources are often difficult to identify and locate," he acknowledged. "These online tools will help



**Year of the
Air Force
Family**

"Because of the mobile nature of military life, trusted community resources are often difficult to identify and locate."

— Mr. Thomas

service and family members attain the best match between resource and need."

Service members and their families can rest assured that they're being provided with top-notch care, Mr. Thomas said. The site "links military family members with somebody that the Department of Defense says, 'We've entrusted you to provide this service to our people.' If that military member is out on the front line knowing that the family back home has a sense of ease and comfort, life is good for everybody."

While the membership is free, service members are responsible for the hiring and payment of caregivers.

Military members and their families can activate their membership by going to <http://www.sittercity.com/dod>.

Lost & Found

For lost and found items, call the
81st Security Forces Squadron investigations office,
377-4500,
7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Medics provide care, compassion to Haitians

Lieutenant from Keesler acts as translator for medical team

By Capt. Nathan Broshear and 1st Lt. Cody Chiles

12th Air Force Public Affairs

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti — A cement truck rumbles by a group of uniformed Airmen, kicking up a cloud of dust. Unfazed, the group reaches into a waiting van and begins to walk a stretcher towards a group of light-brown tents. It's only 11:30 a.m., but the team has already done this exercise half a dozen times in the sweltering heat. As soon as the man is inside, nurses, technicians, Airmen and Sailors acting as translators swarm the bed and begin to work.

Harsh conditions inspire

It's a typical morning at the 24th Expeditionary Medical Support facility, located between the massive "Cite de Soliel" slum, a destroyed port, an active cement factory and a shattered prison on the outskirts of town. Despite the harsh conditions, the team is finding inspiration from the people they've been charged to treat — the sick and injured found among the rubble of the Jan. 12 earthquake. "This site is located on top of a landfill...but the ground is solid and we can land helicopters here from our sister services," says Col. John Mansfield, 24th EMEDS commander as he looks over the overgrown field which passes for a helipad.

Not one complaint

"We just got showers and proper tents yesterday (after more than two weeks in country)," he continued. "We were working in the EMEDS facility during the day and sleeping under open tents at night, but I haven't heard one complaint. There are people a



"I was most amazed with the strength of the Haitian people we bring here. When we change dressings or administer a particularly painful procedure, many times these brave patients will not cry out in pain — they will sing."

— Lieutenant Mudimbi

lot worse off ... these Airmen truly believe in this mission."

The 87 Air Force medical Airmen, primarily from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., are staffing the 24th EMEDS team's 20-bed hospital with a wide range of skill sets; gynecology, urology, pediatrics, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, family practice, and nursing. In addition, 79 Sailors are on site providing security and communication support for the facility.

Lifesaving care

They've only been operational for three days and already have performed more than seven surgeries and provided life-saving care to 78 Haitian citizens.

"Yesterday a missionary group went into a nearby slum and brought a truck full of people here that needed help...most were malnourished toddlers," explains Colonel Mansfield. "In addition to patients from the city, we're also taking patients from the USNS Comfort docked offshore."

Visitors to the facility might find themselves impromptu medical assistants.

"Sunday night we heard gunshots near the compound while the AFSOUTH first sergeant was visiting. A Coast Guard boat pulled up to the beach, then the 'shirt' became an ambulance driver

with our team as we took in a Haitian man with four gunshot wounds to the hip and leg," explains the colonel.

"We were able to stop the bleeding and hooked him up to an IV and then the Navy came to take him to the USNS Comfort," he added. "The military branches are working together to save lives every day."

Second Lt. Patrick Mudimbi, a bio-environmental engineer from the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron at Keesler, is acting as a translator at the EMEDS facility. He's originally from Congo, a French-speaking African nation, where he spent the first 23 years of his life prior to joining the Air Force.

"I learned English at basic training," he jokes.

Skills to the test

This deployment has put Lieutenant Mudimbi's language skills, and his heart, to the test. He works every day as long as his body will allow him.

"I can't take a break, I can't sleep ... these patients need me ... so I work until I am too tired, then start again," he explains.

While he talks, the lieutenant is busy making "juice" and cocoa from meals-ready-to-eat packages and heating entrees for patients.

In the morning, Lieutenant Mudimbi is invited to pray

with a patient who lost his leg. Soon, the whole ward was praying together.

Little miracles

"These small miracles happen every day," he says as he holds the hand of a woman burned across more than 70 percent of her body.

"I was most amazed with the strength of the Haitian people we bring here," said the lieutenant. "When we change dressings or administer a particularly painful procedure, many times these brave patients will not cry out in pain — they will sing." Over the drum of the air conditioners, the burned woman's tiny voice carries across the room ... he smiles at her, then continues.

Dr. Alexis Guyto, a Haitian doctor working alongside the Air Force medics, is monitoring ongoing care for patients after they depart the EMEDS facility. Patients are then tracked by the Haitian medical association to ensure their case history is not lost.

Tracking ongoing care

"(via translator) We support the USNS Comfort and the Air Force EMEDS hospital by directing patients who are discharged to hospitals where they can receive follow-up care," Dr. Guyto explains.

The Haitian doctor was trained in a facility built by

the U.S. military and feels these types of improvements are needed to help the country get back to normal.

"We appreciate the medical schools and projects the military put in place; these are very much needed and have good long-term impact for the people of Haiti," Dr. Guyto commented.

Warm exchanges

During the day, family members of patients come to sit in the ward, waiting for the moment Airmen will have to tell them their loved one must leave. Although they've known these visitors only a few days, they're greeted as long-lost friends, exchanging hugs and warm smiles.

A woman gives her son a cell phone to break the news to his friends; he's lost his right leg, but he's alive. After the call, the family shares their phone, snacks and encouragement with the other patients in the tent.

Shoulder to shoulder

Airmen prepare MREs for everyone, eating alongside their charges. Despite having little left, there's no hoarding kindness ... each person gives all they have.

The day will come when Lieutenant Mudimbi will translate his final message to each patient as they leave the EMEDS care. Their brief time together has changed them both.

"We cry together, we struggle against pain together, we laugh together ... I will remember every one of these patients," the lieutenant says as he gathers another round of MRE juice.

"There is a difference between providing care and compassion — we provide both of them," he says. "We are healing these patients on the outside, and I feel we are also healing them on the inside ... they become like family to us."

This EMEDS team is scheduled to be in Haiti for the next 120 days.

Privacy protection

It's important to shred documents containing personal data such as Social Security Numbers and home phone number and address so personal data can't be reconstructed when placed in recycling bins or trash cans.

Air Force Instruction 33-332, Privacy Act Program, instructs employees to "destroy by any method that prevents compromise, such as tearing, burning, or shredding, so long as the personal data is not recognizable and beyond reconstruction."

A person can be fined up to \$5,000 for violating someone's personal privacy.

The 81st Communications Squadron's records management section has a shredder for use by base organizations. For an appointment, call 377-2571.

The base privacy act manager directs investigations of complaints and violations of the regulations, so if you think a violation has occurred, call 377-2286.



Air Force Personnel Center Web site: <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil>



Construction sites
off-limits
without authorization.

Courtesy photo
A CCATT member, lower right, sits among litter patients being transported on an Air Force C-130. Major Boskovich said their highest tempo of missions were the daily ones to Haiti, “with as many litter patients as we could fit on the plane (20-30) and four to five critical patients attended by the CCATT team.”

Keesler critical care air transport teams provide care to Haitian earthquake victims

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Two 81st Medical Group teams have been providing vital care to victims of the Haiti earthquake airlifted to hospitals in Florida.

Two three-person critical care air transport teams from Keesler have joined other Air Force CCATTs in the lifesaving effort.

Members of the two teams from the 81st Medical Operations Squadron are emergency medicine physician Maj. (Dr.) Stephen Boskovich, critical care nurse Capt. John Michael Fowler and respiratory therapist Tech. Sgt. Rich Pakula and emergency medicine physician Capt. (Dr.) Kirk Hinkley, critical care nurse Capt. Claudia Clark and respiratory therapist Staff Sgt. Emmanuel Coley.

According to Major Boskovich, they have treated “all ages, children to adults. Some are very critical and on a ventilator, some with a high risk of decompensation in flight. On my last flight, all three of my patients were children ages 4-14.”

The major said their highest tempo of missions were the daily ones to Haiti, “with as many litter patients as we could fit on the plane (20-30) and four to five critical patients attended by the CCATT team.”

He explained they are staying in Tampa, Fla. and operate out of MacDill Air Force Base.

“We would pick up the patients in Haiti and fly them back to the states, distributing them to hospitals throughout Florida (Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Tampa) in coordination with Florida emergency medical services. It’s about a three-hour flight to Haiti on a C-130. We have been flying into Port au Prince airport and pick up patients from the mobile aeromedical staging facility set up just off the flight line.”

Major Boskovich noted that most of the wounds the teams have seen are the result of crush injuries: skull and extremity fractures, head injuries, amputations, burns. “We’ve also encountered medical emergencies like sepsis. I had an actual case of tetanus, which is very rare in the U.S. because of our good vaccination policies.”



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Chairman cites need for rapid health care solutions

By Elaine Wilson

American Forces Press Service

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Md. — Defense Department officials must work quickly to surmount a stigma that's preventing service members from seeking help for the signature wounds of today's wars, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said recently.

"We are clearly just beginning to deal with the long-term effects of the signature injuries of these wars — not just the visible, but the invisible," Navy Adm. Mike Mullen told an audience of more than 3,000 military and civilian medical professionals at the 2010 Military Health System Conference at the National Harbor here.

Admiral Mullen stressed the importance of finding rapid health care solutions for service members and their families and of ensuring they understand that seeking help is a sign of strength. He said that many people continue to suffer in silence.

"We are held back by a stigma that we cannot climb over," he said. "Not just now, but five years from now, we still need to be working our way through the impact of these fights and what that means. We can't expect it to just move away from us."

Admiral Mullen stressed the importance of finding quick solutions for service members.

"We need to make sure they have great lives," he said.

"It's incredibly important to look at how we're going to work with the VA, not just pass our patients over to the VA," he said. "We cannot forget these individuals who sacrificed so much and their families."

"We owe them more than that," he continued. "We need to connect to them and make sure their care is representative of their sacrifice."

Part of that care, he said, is speeding up processes such as the physical evaluation board that determines a service member's fitness for continued military duty.

"We are clearly just beginning to deal with the long-term effects of the signature injuries of these wars — not just the visible, but the invisible. We are held back by a stigma that we cannot climb over. Not just now, but five years from now, we still need to be working our way through the impact of these fights and what that means."

— Admiral Mullen

"We are huge, bureaucratic and slow," the admiral said. "The one thing (service members) want back is their life; the one thing they want back is time. We've got to move them through quicker."

Admiral Mullen praised the military's cutting-edge treatment and support facilities — including the Intrepid centers in San Antonio and Washington D.C., Fisher Houses, and Brooke Army Medical Center's burn center — that are offering service members exceptional support.

He also noted the importance of support from families.

"We need to be a military that is ready; a huge part of that ... is the health of our force and the health of our families," he said. "They are such an integral part of our readiness and our success, in ways I don't think we totally understand yet. It's because of their support, in so many ways, that we've been able to succeed."

Admiral Mullen said he often talks to military spouses, and while he begins by touching on broad topics, the discussion always returns to the same issue: health care.

"These are families that have been through an extraordinary amount," he said. "It is that much more important when they have been through so many deployments. It will continue to be that way."

The chairman said leaders need to look to the future to ensure health care remains a constant presence.

"We need to think of the families as part of our readiness equation, and health care is a big part of that," he said.

Along with caring for service members and their families, Admiral Mullen, leaders also need to be mindful of caring for caregivers. He recalled events in 2004 when doctors and nurses were exhausted in the combat theater and "didn't know when to stop."

"People who have seen things they never thought they would see — and certainly that has continued throughout these wars — that needs to be something we keep in mind as well," he said.

That care remains vital, he noted, particularly in light of recent events in Haiti.

In 2005, Admiral Mullen, the hospital ship USNS Mercy provided support in the wake of a tsunami that caused extensive death, damage and suffering in Asia. That effort set health care officials up for success today, he said, citing the USNS Comfort's rapid response to the current crisis. The hospital ship set sail for Haiti with just a few days notice.

Admiral Mullen said he is grateful for the hard-working medical professionals who care for service members and their families.

"If you can go back six years, six-plus years now, and think about what's happened, it has truly been extraordinary," he said. "And you have led the way in that, and you've led it not just here in hospitals in America, but you've led it on the battlefield."

Military medicine has evolved rapidly, Admiral Mullen said, which underscores the importance of looking to the future to ensure the military as a whole is set on the right path.

He said he's already look-

istan will end," he said. "What happens when that adrenaline is back down, and we need it to be? We need to get it to a rotation that gives us more time at home than we have right now. But what does it mean when we get there?"

Cost is a major factor in that future, the chairman said, noting that health care costs have risen "astronomically."

"Leaders have to make tough calls on what we're going to do and what we're not going to do," he acknowledged, noting that leaders must balance investing in people, operations and in systems needed for the future.

Free pancake supper

All are invited to the chapel's ecumenical Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the Triangle Chapel annex.

Lenten services

Protestant — Ash Wednesday service, 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Larcher Chapel.

Catholic — Ash Wednesday Masses, 11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Triangle Chapel; Stations of the Cross, 5 p.m. Fridays during Lent starting Feb. 19, Triangle Chapel.

Heart Link

Heart Link, an orientation specifically designed for Air Force spouses with five years or less in military life, is 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 25 in the Triangle Chapel Annex.

The program, hosted by the airman and family readiness center, increases awareness of the Air Force mission, customs, traditions, protocol and on- and off-base resources and services; emphasizes the important role spouses play in the Air Force community; and develops new friendships and support.

Participants receive lunch, prizes, Heart Link coins, tote bags and more.

Limited child care is available.

To sign up, call 376-8728.

Spouses club auction

The Keesler Spouses Club plans a Treasure Island Extravaganza silent/live auction featuring treasures from area artists and businesses, March 13 at the Dragon's Lair.

The 6 p.m. preview is followed by the auction at 7.

Admission is \$10. Light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar are planned.

Proceeds benefit the club's scholarship fund.

Thrift shop hours

The Keesler Thrift Shop is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Donations are accepted during regular hours.

Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.

For more information, call 377-3217.



Keesler's African American Heritage Committee has planned a variety of activities in observance of African-American Heritage Month.

This year's theme is "The History of Black Economic Empowerment."

Throughout February — heritage presentations at area schools. For more information, call Anthony Mitchell, 377-0987, or Tech. Sgt. LaShunda Burgess, 377-1998.

Friday — 6th annual bowling tournament, noon, Gaudé Lanes, \$10. The event raises funds for college scholarships. This year's goal is to raise \$1,000. For more information, call Kurt Higgins, 377-5250, or Sergeant Burgess, 377-1998.

Feb. 22 — black history luncheon, 11 a.m., Dragon's Lair, \$15. For more information, call Cynthia Lee, 377-9386.

Feb. 26 — soul food sampling and organization day, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., youth center, donations accepted. AAHC members, caterers and area restaurants provide ethnic dishes. Units on base display educational information to foster involvement and cultural awareness in each workplace on base. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Ashley Brunson, 376-8174.

Feb. 27 — gospel concert, 6-8 p.m., Triangle Chapel. Keesler's gospel choir and other community choirs featured. For more information, call Anthony Thomas, 871-2302.

March 11 — 6th annual golf tournament, noon, Bay Breeze Golf Course, \$40. The AAHC wants to raise \$1,000 for scholarships with the event. For more information, call Kurt Higgins, 377-5250.

April 23 — Sickle cell 5-kilometer run/walk, 6:45 a.m. registration, 7:30 a.m. start, Blake Fitness Center \$10-\$15. The event supports sickle cell research and treatment. For more information, call Master Sgt. Yolanda Jerry, 377-4632.

May 21 — awards luncheon, 10:30 a.m., Katrina Kantina, details to be announced. Scholarships are presented.

Varsity men's basketball Keesler Dragons lead SEMAC standings

By Sam Miller

Intramural sports director

The Keesler Dragons men's varsity basketball team picked up its fifth straight victory against Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., 61-52, in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference action Saturday at the Gulfport Naval Construction Battalion Center.

The Dragons now lead the eight-team conference with a 7-3 record, a half game ahead of Hurlburt Field, Fla., at 6-3.

Two Dragons scored in double figures. Kenneth Dukes led the way for Keesler with a game high 20 points. Dan Nwaelele added 15 points with four blocked shots.

At halftime, Keesler led 34-25. In the second half, Eglin matched Keesler's output 27-27. Keesler outbounded Eglin, 47-33.

With two blowout victories over Tyndall AFB, Fla., and Hurlburt Field during the midseason SEMAC Martin Luther King Challenge, the Dragons are looking to extend their win streak this weekend. They travel to Moody AFB, Ga., Saturday to play the last place team in the conference at 2-8.

The SEMAC tournament begins Feb. 27 at Hurlburt Field.

"This team has come a long way since we first started back in August," said Coach Jesse Harris. "Moves, deployments and limited participation hindered us for the first month or so of the season. With the experienced core group we have, all we needed was a capable supporting cast around them. Now that we have that, it's going to be difficult for teams to beat us. We've proven that emphatically over the last seven games."



Gregory Anderson, left, 81st Security Forces Squadron, tries to block Vonelle Cherry, 336th Training Squadron, in the Eastern Conference losers' bracket contest Monday. The Red Wolves kept their championship hopes alive with a 46-42 win over the cops.



Basketball championships decided today at Dragon Fitness Center

Over-30 League
11:15 a.m.

Intramural League
6:15 p.m.

From left, Kenneth Wise guards Richard Gibbs as Robert Light attempts to block Justin Gatchet's shot in an Eastern Conference playoff game Monday. Wise and Light are from the 336th TRS, and Gibbs and Gatchet play for the 81st SFS.

Photos by Kemberly Groue

Prepare motorcycle now for summer use

By Bryan Bailey

Safety office

The groundhog may have seen his shadow signifying six more weeks of winter, but it also signifies that the full-blown motorcycle riding season is close at hand. Winters may be short on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, but for some the cooler temperature meant a break from riding their motorcycles. This transition between the seasons is the perfect time to begin preparing bikes, bodies and minds for riding.

Take a thorough look at your bike. Find problems now so you don't have to deal with them on the road or, worse yet, when they could cause a crash.

Pay particular attention to tires for wear from the last riding season and for dry rotting that may have occurred during the storage period. The off season is also a perfect time to buy tires because you get good deals when demand is low.

This is a good time to do routine maintenance such as fluid changes and scheduled adjustments. Check brakes, cables, electrical systems and controls for operation and condition. If you aren't the mechanic type, the off season is the best time to get to a qualified mechanic to avoid the rush.

Replace any damaged or worn protective

equipment. A damaged helmet or a scratched visor isn't going to do you any good, so retire them with honor and get new gear.

Now that the bike is good to go, ensure that you are ready. Your skills aren't going to be at the same level as they were when you parked the bike for winter. Ease back in.

Take a motorcycle safety course such as the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's experienced rider course to refresh your skills and become reacquainted with your machine.

Bought a new bike? The ERC is a great way to familiarize yourself with the handling characteristics of the new bike in a controlled setting away from the hazards of traffic.

For new riders, Keesler also offers the basic riders course free to active duty, Defense Department civilians and authorized dependants. Take advantage of these resources, which cost anywhere from \$150-\$300 in some states.

Taking the time to prepare for the riding season can not only save you money by avoiding major maintenance costs in the long run, but more importantly, it can save your life.

For more information regarding motorcycle safety or motorcycle safety courses offered at Keesler, contact your unit motorcycle monitor or call 377-2007.

CONTROL YOURSELF



Play it smart. Know your skill level and ride within it.



(800) 446-9227 • www.msfc-usa.org

SCORES AND MORE

Basketball

SEMAC varsity men

(as of Monday)

Team	Won	Lost
Keesler	7	3
Hurlburt Field	6	3
Mayport	6	4
Eglin	5	5
Maxwell	5	5
Tyndall	4	5
Robins	4	6
Moody	2	8

Feb 6 — Keesler 61, Eglin 52; Tyndall 71, Maxwell 68; Robins 67, Moody 61; Hurlburt 80, Mayport 67.

Upcoming games

Feb 13 — Tyndall at Robins; Maxwell at Hurlburt, Keesler at Moody; Mayport at Eglin.

Intramural Over 30

(as of Monday)

Team	Won	Lost
333rd TRS	8	0
81st FSS-81st CS	7	2
81st SFS	4	3
81st LRS	3	7
332nd TRS	2	7
335th TRS	1	6

Jan. 25 — 81st FSS-81st CPTS 65, 332nd TRS 21; 81st SFS 43, 81st LRS 34.

Jan. 27 — 332nd TRS 20, 335th TRS 0; 81st FSS-81st CPTS 44, 81st LRS 36.

Feb. 1 — 333rd TRS 20, 332nd TRS 0; 81st LRS 20, 335th TRS 0.

Playoff games

Round 4

Game 6 — today, 11:15 p.m.

Round 5

Game 7 — today, 12:15 p.m.

Intramural Eastern Division

(as of Monday)

Team	Won	Lost
336th TRS	9	1
81st FSS-81st CPTS	9	1
334th TRS	8	2
81st SFS	5	5
338th TRS-A	4	6
332nd TRS-B	2	8
81st MDSS-A	2	8
333rd TRS	1	9

Intramural Western Division

(as of Monday)

Team	Won	Lost
81st MSGS	9	0
335th TRS	8	2
81st MSG	9	1
332nd TRS-A	5	4
403rd Wing	4	6
81st MDSS-B	3	7
338th TRS-B	1	9
81st DS	0	10

Bowling

Intramural

(as of Jan. 19)

Team	Won	Lost
81st MDSS	86	42
Dough Boys	82	46
81st DS	78	50
81st SFS	78	50
81st LRS	77	51
338th TRS-B	70	58
338th TRS-A	68	60
332nd TRS	67	61
403rd MXS	66	62
336th TRS	60	68
81st FSS	60	68
81st TRSS	60	68
335th TRS	50	78
334th TRS	44	84
333rd TRS	44	84
No One Home	8	88

Birthday party package — 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m. Saturdays. Basic party with bowling and food \$8.95 per child. Mid party, including table supply and T-shirt, \$11.95 per child. Premium party with games and a pin, \$15.95 per child. Reservations required.

Bowling fundraisers — for more information, call 377-2817.

Club member special — show current club card Thursdays and bowl for \$1.50 per game; free shoe rental.

Glow bowling — 9 p.m. Fridays and 7 p.m. Saturdays.

Lunch and bowl special — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. Bowl for \$1 a game plus \$1 for shoes.

Team building special — 1-3 p.m. Mondays-Wednesdays, 1-5 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays. Bring employees bowling for \$1 a game plus shoe rental. For reservations, call 377-2817.

Youth bowling — for any child old enough to throw the bowling ball down the alley. League meets 9:30 a.m. Saturdays; instruction available. For more information, call 377-2817.

Fitness centers

Biggest loser contest — through March 19. Final weigh in on or before weekend of March 19. The top two male and female contestants losing the most weight during the competition will receive a T-shirt and Subway gift card.

Boxing room — Triangle Fitness Center. Six heavy bags, three speed bags and one double-end bag. Boxing gloves available.

Free blood pressure machines — available at all fitness centers.

Free fitness classes — boot camp,

self-defense, cycling, yoga, step aerobics, Tae Kwondo, core fitness, kick boxing and pilates at Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call 377-2907.

Free fitness testing, exercise prescription and personal training — at Blake, Dragon and Triangle Fitness Centers. For more information, call for appointment.

Fit to fight incentive program — Dragon slayers, dragon readers, dragon gliders and dragon riders available free at Blake, Dragon and Triangle fitness centers. Awards presented. For more information, contact the fitness center of your choice.

Massage appointments — at Triangle Fitness Center. For more information, call 348-6698.

No smoking — on Crotwell Track across from Blake Fitness Center.

Parent/child fitness room — at Dragon Fitness Center. Workout equipment; play area for ages 6 months to 7 years.

Dragon Fitness Center — Due to the basketball court's water damage, center hours extended for full-court basketball play 6 a.m.-11 p.m. Mondays-working Friday; 8 a.m.-1 p.m. nonworking Friday and Saturdays. Parent-child fitness room has workout equipment and play area for ages 6 months to 7 years. For more information, call 377-4385.

Triangle Fitness Center — open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays. For more information, call 377-3056.

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends and holidays.

Golf

Golf lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes. For appointment, call 424-0479.

Twilight special — 1 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays; play unlimited golf until closing. Fees: E1-E4, \$12; E5-O3, \$20; O4-up, \$22, guests \$22.

Nonprior service student special — show phase or UBU card. Greens fee and cart, \$15 for 18 holes, \$10 for nine holes; add \$5 for rental clubs.

Outdoor recreation

Back Bay fishing trip — \$20 per person. State fishing license required; minimum four, maximum six people. For more information, call 377-3160.

Catamaran sailboat for rent —

\$10 per hour (minimum two hours) or \$75 per day. Trailer and take-off site \$100 per day or \$175 for a weekend. Must be sailboat certified.

Camping packages — available, including sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stoves and tents.

Canoes, kayaks — for rent.

Children's wildlife poster contest — throughout the month. Any type of wildlife: birds, fish and animals. First-place winner receives a \$100 savings bond, second place winner receives a \$50 savings bond.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$750 for first 10 people, \$50 each additional person. No license needed; \$100 deposit.

Deep sea fishing trips — Nonworking Fridays and Sundays on the Keesler Dolphin II. \$75 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people. For more information and to reserve, call 377-3160.

Delacroix, La. fishing site — Outdoor fishing/hunting camp in Delacroix, La. Rent a self-contained camper, sleeps four, \$50/night, \$125/weekend (Friday noon to Monday noon) or \$300 a week (seven days noon to noon). Bring food, beverages, cooking utensils and bedding. Louisiana license needed to fish. For more information, call 377-3160.

January special — Ten percent discount on all rental equipment.

Keesler and Thrower Park RV storage facilities — combinations changed every month until further

notice. For new combination info, call 377-3160, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. the first duty day of the month.

Marina park pavilions — to reserve, call 377-3160.

Nonprior service student special — 35000 Trek seven-speed bikes, \$5 day on nonworking Friday, Saturday and Sunday, or Saturday/Sunday.

One-day fishing trips — to Horn, Ship or Cat islands; pick date for charter trip to Delacroix and Reggio, La., with professional guide. For more information, call 377-3160.

Paddle boats for rent — two-person or four-person for \$5 per hour for minimum of two hours. For more information, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — test to become certified to rent a pontoon. For more information, call 377-3160.

Rental campers — \$50 day. Two available; one sleeps six, one sleeps eight. For more information and towing requirements, call 377-3160.

Rent a bicycle — 3500 Trek, seven speed, \$3 day, \$15 week, \$35 month.

Resale area — snacks, beverages, fishing and rental equipment, and hunting and fishing licenses.

RV, boat and trailer storage — \$20 per month.

17-foot Back Bay cruiser for rent — Mississippi boater registration card required. For more information or for prices, call 377-3160.

Wet slip fees — monthly, 32 feet-plus, \$3.75 per foot; under 32 feet, \$2.50 per foot; overnight, \$5 per boat.

The Air Force is committed to energy efficiency. Everyone -- servicemembers, civilians and family members -- can help save energy and work toward a cleaner future. Here are some "Energy Facts" to think about:

- Each winter, the equivalent of of all the oil in the Alaskan oil pipeline is lost as heat through American windows
- "Energy Star" makes a difference. Energy Star tagged appliances typically use 50 percent less energy than their older counterparts
- Every time an oven door is opened, 25-50 degrees of temperature is lost
- Each ton of recycled paper saves the energy equivalent of 380 barrels of oil
- Ceiling fans cost about \$2.40 a month to run 10 hours a day; they can reduce energy bills by \$10
- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a television for three hours

**Report
sexual assaults
to Keesler's
sexual assault
response
coordinator
hotline,
377-7278.**

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Brianna Augustine, Andrew Behrens, Jeremy Black, Nathaniel Bourgoin, Robert Bower, Weston Brown, Trevor Chaney, Jake Claxton, Ryan Clyde, Krystina Colon, Mario Cortez Alfaro, Abel Crow, Kevin Crowell, Adrian Davis, Joshua Davisson, Craig Daw, Giani Dicesare, Jerad Dodson, Timothy Drafz, Karidene Eaton, Steven Ervin, Tyler Fluharty, Melissa Ford, Christopher Foster, Timothy Freeman, Kayla Gehring, Anise Ghorbani, Allyana Gibbs, Christopher Gonzalez, Sam Greene, Chase Gross, Avery Hawkins, JingBin He, Nicholas Hedberg, Kristen Helmuth, Tyler Higgins, Joziah Hilkey, Evan Holme, Zachery James, Thomas Jones, Andrew King, Christian Klein, Lyle Koehler, Bryce Koepke, Benjamin Kolozsy, Vincent Kowalczyk, Jacob Kreuzer, Daniel Lagomarsino, Dallas Malone, Christopher McQueen, Corey Meyer, Sam Morley, John Norton, Gunnar Ostman, Anthony Owens, Harold Partin, Josiah Perrin, Zachary Pierce, Tylan Pierson, Nathan Posey, Anthony Powilleit, Joseph Rodriguez, Fabian Rosario, Jacob Rockwell, Timothy Rutland, Ahna Sagon, Justine Santiago, Zachery Shoemaker, Garrett Sizemore, John Sizemore, Darren Sligh, Robert Smith, Julius Stiggers, Jason Stinchcomb, Nicholas Stowers, Micah Templin, Adam Tresenrider, Charles Turner, Justin Vasquez, Roy Vreeland, Bronson Walter, Devon Wanderson, Thomas Warda, Stanely Wesley, Brian White, David Wilson and Joshua Yule; Airmen Ramiro Angulo, Benjamin Belanger, Joseph Bloomer, Patrick Brown, Michael Busby, William Hallett, Isak Hobbie, Christopher Janousek, Jason Landsverk, Andrew Lemons, Stephen Mehr, Daniel Mihm, Eric Miller, Michael Miller, Matthew Nenni, Brandon Payne, Nicholas Richter, Adam Sanchez, Jeanette Spera, Jarrod Tamez, Benjamin Tress, Cassie Szymanski, Justin Varnum, Abraham Vasquez, Shane Vernick and Matthew Williams; Airmen 1st Class Vincent Acunia, Marcus Allenhall, Ross Anderson, Steven Argandona, Seren Aydemur, Adam Bartholomew, Michael Bates, Matthew Bekker, Robert Benton, Daniel Berger, James Blasich, Kevin Brennand, Andrew Brown, Ruth Bryce, Nicholas Burr, Alan Butner, Michael Cable, Christopher Calcagni, Julius Caluya, Sheila Carroll, Robert Cecil, Alexander Chase, Qiaofen Chen, Zachary Cox, Andrew Custead, Herman Cyrus, Bryan Dauphinais, Jason Delauro, Leran Dong, Alexander Dudley, Bret Edie, Alexander Farmer, Ashley Featherston, Heather Ferguson, David Forker, Michelle Fritz, Joshua Goss, Justin Greco, Dyana Grey, Brian Hadfield, Marnay Harris, Robert Hayes, Michael Hoffman, Diane Holder, Kyle Householder, Alexander Jansing, Colby Judd, Cheva Jummongnart, Stephen Koehle, William Layne, Keeley Mahoney, John Mark, Andrew McLeod, Andrew Moriarity, Christopher Navarro, Rebecca Nelson, Benjamin Nienhouse, Kyle Norman, Karen ONeal, Justin Owens, Dwight Patterson, Christopher Paulus, Joshua Remer, Shanna Rissmiller, Omar Roque, William Sauers, Luke Seitters, Alex Sene, Alexander Shelton, Kyle Smith, Michael Speicher, Rachel Stratton, Zoe Terico, Jeremy Tharp, Tiffany Thompson, Luke Underwood, Kevin Vanek, Mathew Velky, Guy Vinn, Nathaniel Walker, James Walsh, Natalie Wardwell, Isaac Watkins, Shawn Westbrook, Courtney Wheeler and Daniel Whitehouse; Senior Airmen Adam Bennett, Gregory Bergerson, Ryan Covert, Andrew Cross, David Diamadi, Laurence Dolan, Brandon Flynn, Timothy Hardesty, Matthew Leecy, Aaron McKenzie, Brian Mendoza, Terry Prewitt, Joel Rosado Ramos, Carie Smith, Jeffery Stiebling, Tina Stringberg, Alexander Tressler, Dennis Waweru and Kathleen Welsch; Staff Sgts. Jeraby Dillon, Timothy Domka, Phillip Eliana, Aaron Flanigan, Corey Fonger, Adam Gillard, Michael Haviland, Hansryan Hiltl, Erin Hoock, Jennifer Jones, James King, Michael Leonardson, Dennis Morse, Alexander Nishakawa, Gilberto Santiago, Carlton Stokes, Jose Torres, Alexander Tressler, Alan Michael Warner and Robert Whitfield; Tech. Sgts. Tina Benennt, James Fehr, Jimmy Hoe and Joshua Spence; Master Sgts. Robbie Engevoid and Dana Gunter.

Metrology basic course — Airmen Jacob Burns, Davis Cook and Todd-Henri Rath; Airmen 1st Class Mitchel Carroll, Steven La Rue and Jonathan Nickel.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems — Airmen Basic Skyler Snell and Steven Zarr; Airmen Jacob Anderson and Paul McDonough; Airmen 1st Class Stephen Armstrong, Anthony D'Angelo, Daniel Middleton and Stephanie Randall.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen

Basic Andrew Alotis, Ulysses Arango, Justin Baez, Nathan Burnell, Joshua Carson, Owen Davies, Zachery Davis, Cass Dedaviess, Nathaniel Dobbins, Jacob Dounda, Devin Gonzalez, Ariel Hornsby, Dustin Hoiten, Joshua Hoover, Joseph Johnson, Daniel Kennison, Matthew King, Larry Laird, Lyza Lacsina, Daniel Lamers, Justin Lewis, Luke Lewis, Justin Loranger, Amber Magnus, Matthew McDonald, Jacob McPhie, Junnel Olay, Kyle Paige, Tyler Peacock, Matthew Richards, Seth Roberts, Lawrence Stephens, Andrew Strayer, Erica Strong, Robert Taron, Daniel Lugo-Thomas, Scott Thompson, John Tomsich, Raul Valdez, Katie Weyer, and Zane Womack; Airmen Brian Adarraga, Tiffany Degracia, Ashley McGill, Billy McGregor, Joseph Pennington, Alvy Pierce, Keagan Stangret, and Bryan Wichman; Airmen 1st Class Irene Charbonneau, Kari Cox, Philip Elisara, James Emanuel, Brandon Homrich, Caleb Howell, Paul Galanti, Ryan Jeffries, Kyle Karr, Joshua Korn, Ashley Lirosi, Amanda Love, Shawn Messen, Alexander McClure, Joshua McIntosh, Demario McMath, Emily McMullen, Daniel Middaugh, Christopher Morton, Kelsey Oxford, Tristan Ritter, Steven Scillitani, Kyle Seraphin, Seth Simpson, and Kathryn Tarlton; Senior Airmen James Miles and Luis Valencia; Staff Sgts. Jason Gooch, Justin McLanahan, Joshua Parman, Kevin Robinson, Joel Stover and Ross Weiler; Master Sgt. Joe Pugetonu Saueha.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic Joshua Molyneux; Airmen David Sullivan; Airmen 1st Class Brett Decker; Senior Airmen Aaron Hildebrand; Staff Sgts. Michael Cross, Timothy Finch, Shaun Gingerella, Douglas Hayes, Ryan Maline, Joshua Myers, Gretchen Phillips and Zackery Smith; Tech. Sgts. Jennifer Frost, Derek Jarrels, Timothy Vest, Michael Weissgarber and Mark West.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Kayla Chilcoat, Richard Ellstrom, Shiquita Evans, Lakindra Favors, Briana Hofreiter, Jason Lee, Andrew Smart and Nikkolos Tessier; Airmen Kristen Cleveland, Daniel Harris, Joshina Holmes and Kierra Hooker; Airmen 1st Class Thomas Archer, Valentina Basile, James Davis, Sharae Echols, Jeffrey Fuston, Gerald Marshall, Jeffrey Mohr, David Ollivant, Richard Ramirez, William Reid, Michelle

CHAPEL SERVICES

Editor’s note: For more information, call 377-2520.
Protestant

Sunday worship
Larcher Chapel traditional with children’s ministry.....8:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel contemporary service.....10:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass, Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.
Weekday Mass, Triangle Chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Jewish

Jewish services are held Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Israel, 12277 Three Rivers Rd., Gulfport. Call Master Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235 or 207-2196.

Islamic

Prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday. Building 2003, across from the Live Oak dining facility. Call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

Sacrament, 2 p.m. Sundays; scripture and prayer, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, family home evening, 7 p.m. Fridays; all at Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 1-919-580-8679.

Orthodox

Divine Liturgy 10 a.m. Sunday at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 255 Beauvoir Rd, Biloxi. Call 388-6138 or Father Stephen Clos, 377-4105.

Rust and Yuridia Soto; Senior Airman Alexis Frazee; Staff Sgt. Kyle Fisher, Jessica Gordon, Crystal Mims and Roel Mora; Tech. Sgts. Kevin Auth, Janice Bridget and Chad Lynch.

338th TRS

Cyber transport/network infrastructure systems — Airmen Basic Joshua Duquette, Danielle Fulgham, Dominique Manipol, Corey Noman, Corey Paterson, Nicholas Pawlak, Clint Ricker, Robert Sides and Mitchell Wheaton; Airmen Zachary Dunphy and Nicholas Monico; Airman 1st Class Shawn Baker, Stephen Bentley, Sam Bessinger, Emilio Dominguez, Joshua Domke, Michael Nichols, Gregory Rivas, Jarrod Sealey, Nathaniel Vincent and John Wildey; Senior Airmen Manuel Navarro and Nathaniel Osborn; Staff Sgts. Phillip Duckworth, Simeon Foronda, John Fulgar, Ashley Klejmont and Jonathon Werner.

Ground radar systems — Airmen Dennis Decker and Chad Wanner; Airmen 1st Class Ryan Alexander, Michael Bosshard, Simon Martin, and Andrew Tosch; Senior Airman Gary Martin; Staff Sgts. Troy Pierson and Julie Reinhardt.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Editor’s note: Hours reflect changes in observance of the President’s Day holiday Monday.

OPEN
Inns of Keesler — open 24 hours
Fam Camp — open 24 hours
Magnolia Dining Facility — 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 to 1:30 p.m., 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Live Oak Dining Facility — 7:30-9a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Blake Fitness Center — 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Outdoor recreation — 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Vandenberg Community Center — noon to 7 p.m.
Golf course, driving range and pro shop — 7 a.m. to dusk

CLOSED
Arts and craft center
Auto hobby shop
Azalea Dining Facility
Katrina Kantina
McBride Library
Dragon Fitness Center
Triangle Fitness Center
Information, ticket and tours office
Legends Café
Youth center
Child development center
Family child care
Gaude Lanes
11th Frame Café
Veterinary services

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 10-2 — graduation today.
Class 10-3 — Feb. 22-March 30

Mathies NCO Academy

Class 10-2 — graduation Wednesday.
Class 10-3 — Feb. 23-April 10.

Arts and crafts center

Advanced intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. Saturday and Feb. 27. \$20 per person, including materials.
Beginning intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. Feb. 20; \$15, including materials. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood in a decorative pattern.
Card making — 5:30-7 p.m. today; \$7 per person.
Engraving shop — squadron, office and individual orders.
Framing — 12:30-4:30 p.m. Feb. 19; \$30 per person. Bring a picture, not larger than 5 by 7, for framing.
Glass painting — 10:30 a.m. to noon Feb. 20; \$25 including a completed painted project.

Digest,

from Page 26

Jewelry making — 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday; \$30 including materials. Learn wire wrapping, tooling.

Multi-crafts center — potter’s wheels, ceramic molds, air brushing and tools are available for use in the shop. Craft classes for beginners, intermediate and advance levels. Craft supplies for sale.

Pottery — 10:30 a.m. to noon, Feb. 27; \$40.

Scrapbooking — 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 18, and 10:30 a.m. to noon Feb. 20; \$20 including materials.

Wood shop — stocked retail lumber and large assembly area adjacent to machine room available. Call for class information.

Chapel

All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex. For more information, call 377-2520.

Catholic religious education — after 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Protestant Sunday School — 10:30-11:30 a.m. for preschool, elementary, teens and adults.

Men’s prayer breakfast — 9 a.m. to noon second Saturday of the month.

Women’s prayer breakfast — 10 a.m. to noon first Saturday of the month.

Dinner and the Bible — 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Triangle Chapel Annex.

Grief Share support group — meets 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Triangle Chapel Annex. One-on-one and group support available for people experiencing difficult relationships or work situations, loss of a loved one or job, divorce, health issues and grief. For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Garrell Calton, 376-3095 or Glenda Woodard or Delphine McIntyre, 377-2531.

Keesler Medical Center

Mental health clinic

Post-traumatic stress disorder — 1:30 p.m. Mondays.

Healthy thinking — 2 p.m. Tuesdays.

Stress management techniques — 10 a.m. Wednesdays.

Relaxation techniques — 9 a.m. Mondays.

To register, call 376-0385.

McBride Library

Available — two large meeting rooms, audio room, typing room and children’s library.

Chief of Staff professional military reading list — titles available for checkout from the special book collection.

Free computer classes — 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Wednesday and Feb. 24 and March 3. For information on programs covered, call 377-2181.

Free wireless Internet — check at circulation desk.

Paperback book swap — swap for one of same genre.

Playaway — self-playing digital audio books available with content preloaded; select from large assortment of titles. Pop in a battery, plug in almost any type of headset and enjoy.

Online catalog — to search the inventory, log on to <http://www.keesler-services.us>, click link for McBride Library, then link for online catalog.

Overdrive audio online book program — individual or family accounts allow download/playing of full-length audio books on a personal computer. Check with staff for details.

Research databases — comprehensive research capabilities. Many specialty areas.

Rosetta Stone online language learning center — 30 foreign languages, including Spanish. For more information, check with the library staff.

Story time — 10 a.m. Tuesdays for ages 3-5. Stories will be read aloud and told in sign language.

Tours/orientations — for more information, call 377-2604.

Volunteers needed — to shelve books, assist with children’s story time and create displays. For more information, call 377-2181.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Editor’s note: All events, except dances, are open to all

Keesler personnel.

Carnival Week — through Saturday. Masked dance 7 p.m.-midnight Friday; bring your own mask and receive beads or get a free mask at the door. Mardi Gras Ball 7 p.m., Saturday; king and queen crowned at 10:30 p.m.

Dances — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays, and Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Legends Café — buffet specials 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Pool tournaments — 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Sunday Showdown party — 4 p.m. Sunday. Watch the big game and enjoy free food and giveaways. Nonprior service students only.

Katrina Kantina

All ranks invited — open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Snacks, beverages and music; \$5.25, chips and salsa, DJ Wayne and his karaoke machine.

Catering — experts can assist with planning weddings, holidays, birthdays, official functions and other special occasions.

Chili special — 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays; \$1 a bowl for members, \$1.50 for nonmembers.

Lunch — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; \$6 for club members, \$8 for nonmembers.

Wing and things — 5-7 p.m. Feb. 24. Keesler club members get in free; nonmembers pay \$3 at the door. Complimentary hors d’oeuvres and \$1 domestic draft beer.

Youth center

Editor’s note: All children registered in a youth center program receive free membership.

TRAIL — 6-8 p.m. Mondays.

Friday night fun — 6:30-9:30 p.m., ages 6-12. Skating, music, games and more.

Classes — Guitar, piano and gymnastic classes available. For more information, call 377-4116.

Open recreation — 3-5:45 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 3-6 p.m. Fridays for ages 9 and older. Teen open recreation 4-8 p.m. Saturdays for ages 13 and older. Boys and Girls Club programs, including computer media center, homework assistance “Power Hour” program and triple-play sports and recreation activities. Students sign themselves in at front desk.

Youth employment service — earn money for college tuition. For more information, call 377-4116.

Congressional Award program — ages 14-21; self-directed merit program promoting personal development, physical fitness and community involvement.

Volunteers needed — for sports, open recreation, crafts, cooking, computers, arts, reading, sewing and general cleaning and decorations. Must be 18 or older. For more information, call 377-4116.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Discounted tickets — for more information, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the ITT link.

Information on area and out-of-state attractions — free brochures for Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

Mardi Gras tours to Mobile, Ala. — leave the Arts and Crafts Center at 4:30 p.m. Schedule: Thursday, Mystic Stripers; Monday, Infant Mystics; \$20 per person.

Tour bus — available for group rental, seats 23.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, call Master Sgt. Charlene Morse, 377-7116; e-mail charlene.morse@keesler.af.mil or visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center.

Congressionally-mandated pre-separation briefings — counseling by airman and family readiness center for active-duty military members of any branch of service who’ll receive honorable discharges and no extra transition benefits. Briefings are 1 p.m. Tuesdays in Room 111, Sablich Center, for those separating and 2:30 p.m. for those retiring. If separating or retiring under special circumstances, call 376-8728 for appointment.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, call Master Sgt. Charlene Morse, 377-7116; visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center, or e-

Please see **Digest**, Page 28

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — baked chicken, cornbread, beef and noodles, fried catfish, black-eyed peas, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, chili, broccoli soup, bean ham soup, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Dinner — roast pork loin, jaegerschnitzel veal, chicken cor-don bleu, potato halves, orange rice, gravy, carrots, pinto beans, corn combo, fruit salad, potato salad, chili, broccoli soup, bean ham soup, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, country-style steak, stuffed peppers, baked macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, rice, gravy, broccoli, cauliflower parmesan, Italian-style beans, corn O’Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle soup, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — crispy baked chicken, beef yakisba, baked ham, baked potatoes, spicy brown rice pilaf, gravy, broccoli, peas, carrots, fruit medley salad, bean salad, raisin sauce, chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and buffalo wings.

Dinner — fish almondine, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, okra, fruit medley, bean salad, chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and buffalo wings.

Sunday

Lunch — baked fish, sauerbraten, chicken breast parmesan, au gratin potatoes, egg noodles, gravy, cauliflower, vegetables, cabbage, tomato salad, German coleslaw, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

Dinner —barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, seafood cocktail sauce, beef manicotti/cannelloni, potato wedges, mashed potatoes, gravy, blackeyed peas, collard greens, corn O’Brien, tomato salad, German coleslaw, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — prime beef rib, southern fried catfish, dijon chicken, peas and carrots, O’Brien potatoes, corn combo, broccoli, rice, gravy, fruit salad, spinach salad, cornbread, french onion soup, chicken gumbo, cannonball sandwich and fried chicken nuggets.

Dinner — roast turkey, ribeye steak, tempura fried fish, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, cucumber onion salad, macaroni salad, chili con queso, Tuscan vegetables, cheeseburger chowder, cannonball sandwich and fried chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — lemon-garlic fish, pork schnitzel steak, yakisoba, ginger rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, summer squash, spinach salad, Waldorf salad, timberline chili, minestrone, baja chicken enchilada, steak and cheese sub and tacos.

Dinner — roast pork loin, barbecue beef cubes, garlic toast, chicken fajitas, O’Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, Waldorf salad, spinach salad, chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — Chinese five-spice chicken, beef broccoli stir fry, Cantonese spareribs, vegetable egg rolls, shrimp fried rice, steamed rice, stir-fry vegetables, fried cabbage, gravy, lemon sesame green beans, coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, Swiss steak, garlic toast, fried chicken, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, asparagus, cabbage, coleslaw, frijole salad, chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and pizza.

Digest,

from Page 27

mail charlene.morse@keesler.af.mil.

Transition assistance program

— The Department of Labor’s program is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. the first three days; the fourth day is the Veterans Affairs benefits brief from 8-11 a.m. and the retirement benefits briefs from 1-4 p.m. The schedule is March 8-11; April 12-15; May 10-13; June 14-17; July 19-20; Aug. 9-12; Sept. 13-16; Oct. 18-21; Nov. 15-18; Dec. 13-16. To register, call 376-8728.

MEETINGS

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Yolanda Jerry, 377-2157, or Kurt Higgins, 377-5250.

Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 652 — 7 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Live Oak Dining Facility. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Rich Striggow, 377-4800, or visit <http://chapter.afsa652.org/>.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Tuesday of the month. For more information, call Michelle Foster, 273-4591, or e-mail auxiliary.president@afsa652.org.

Airman's Council — meets every first and third Tuesday at 4 p.m., Sablich Auditorium. For more information, call Senior Airman Alonda West, 377-2994.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — For more information, call Airman 1st Class Mackenzie Jackson, 377-5511; Senior Airman Rose Mabe, 377-2331, or 377-SAVE.

To change information in the Digest,
call 377-3163 or 4130 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil